Specification, Marked Up Version

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 5, line 4, with the following:

FIG. 4 illustrates conventional network access. A current proposal for communication network access is provided by the Telecommunication Information Network Architecture Consortium (TINA-C). TINA-C proposes the use of agents in the user domain and the service provider domain. The service provider domain could be a telephone network, data network, or ISP. The agents negotiate access service rights. Once the service is negotiated, the user receives the service from the service provider network during a service session. Unfortunately, the access session occurs between the user domain and a particular service provider domain. At present, the service provider domain provides limited access capability beyond simply handing off communications to another network based on a called number or network address. As a result, the ability to customize services for a particular user across multiple service providers is inadequate.

Please insert the following paragraph at page 10, between lines 12 and 13:

FIG. 4 illustrates conventional network access.

Claims – Marked Up Version

Please cancel claims 2-9, 11-18, 19-23, 24-28, and 30-40 without prejudice;
Please amend claims 1, 10, and 29 as follows:

1. (amended) A method of operating an access system including an access server to provide access between a user system and a plurality of communication networks that provide services to a user, the method comprising:

receiving [information] in the access server a user data packet from the user system with the user data packet including a destination [first] alias [into the access server];

translating the user data packet into a network data packet by replacing the destination alias with a destination network address that relates to a selected one communication network of the plurality of communication networks [processing the information to determine whether an alias translation exists for the first alias in an alias schedule]; and

routing the network data packet to the selected one communication network based on the destination network address, wherein the translating enables communication of the user network packet to the selected one communication network without inclusion of the destination network address in the user data packet [modifying the information based on the alias translation in response to the determination the alias translation exists].

10. (amended) A software product for providing access between a user system and a plurality of communication networks that provide services to a user, the software product comprising:

access server software operational when executed by a processor to direct the processor to receive a user data packet from the user system with the user data packet including a destination alias, translate the user data packet into a network data packet by replacing the destination alias with a destination network address that relates to a selected one communication network of the plurality of communication networks, and route the network data packet to the selected one communication network based on the destination network address, wherein the translating enables communication of the user network packet to the selected one communication network without inclusion of the destination network address in the user data packet [receive information including a first alias into an access server, process the information to determine whether an alias translation exists for the first alias in an alias schedule, and modify the information based on the alias translation in response to the determination the alias translation exists]; and

a software storage medium operational to store the access server software.

29. (amended) An access system for providing access between a user system and a plurality of communication networks that provide services to a user, the access system comprising:

an access server connected to the user system and the plurality of communication networks and configured to receive a user data packet from the user system with the user data packet including a destination alias, generate and transmit a translation request including the destination alias to a database system, receive a reply from the database system including a destination network address that relates to a selected one communication network of the plurality of communication networks, translate the user data packet into a network data packet by replacing the destination alias with the destination network address, and route the network data packet to the selected one communication network based on the destination network address, wherein the translating enables communication of the user network packet to the selected one communication network without inclusion of the destination network address in the user data packet [receive information including a first alias, process the information to determine whether an alias translation exists for the first alias in an alias schedule, modify the information based on the alias translation in response to the determination the alias translation exists, generate and transmit a request for the alias translation to a database system in response to the determination that the alias translation does not exist for the first alias in the alias schedule, receive a reply including the alias translation from the database system and process the reply to store the alias translation in the alias schedule]; and

the database system connected to the access server and configured to receive the translation request [for the alias translation for the alias] from the access server, process the translation request to generate the destination network address [alias translation], and generate and transmit a reply [including the alias translation] to the access server including the destination network address.